

[2 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

Water and soil conservation projects by ICAR

426. MS. MABEL REBELLO:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects undertaken by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for water and soil conservation in the country *vis-a-vis* number of these projects completed during the last five years;

(b) whether ICAR has developed new technologies with respect to the above said projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps ICAR has taken for transfer of these technologies to farmers; and

(e) the number of technologies that were actually transferred to States and to the farmers during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) About 90 projects on soil and water conservation have been undertaken in the country out of which 41 have been completed during last five years.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Bio-engineering technologies including water harvesting and integrated farming systems for rehabilitation of northwestern and north-east Himalayas, Shiwaliks, tribal Orissa and eastern Ghats, Nilguries, semi-arid and arid regions, ravines, and torrents were developed.

(d) The technologies were transferred to farmers through training of implementers and demonstrations under Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), Institute-Village Linkage Programme (IVLP), Krishi Vigyan Kendras and State Extension Agencies.

(e) During the last five years, 17 technologies were transferred to State and to the farmers.